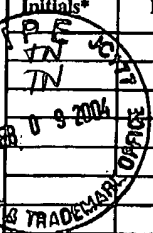



Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</u> <u>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/538,475
				Confirmation Number	8142
				Filing Date	March 30, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Masao TOKITA
				Art Unit	1722
				Examiner Name	T. Nguyen
				Attorney Docket Number	Q58571
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ³ (if known)		
 TN		US 4,417,864		11/29/1983	Shigeo et al.
		US 5,476,631	A	12/19/1995	Brown et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
TN		DE	1,076,013	A	2/18/1960		
TN		DE	2,156,796		5/24/1973		
TN		IT	1,191,800		3/23/1988		
TN		NL	1 002 858	C	10-15-1997		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
TN		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 004, No. 072 (M-13), May 27, 1980	
TN		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 011, No. 258 (M-618), August 21, 1987	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	8/22/04
--------------------	---	-----------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.